



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 25.2 Thursday, January 10, 2019

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Public invited to conversation, film on suicide

Belleville High School is sponsoring a Suicide Awareness Conversation from 6 to 8 p.m. today, Thursday, Jan. 10, at the BHS Auditorium.

From 5:30 to 6 p.m., there will be additional resources and information available.

This follows a series of suicides in the community, some involving high school students.

Daniel Olson, an all-state athlete from Michigan, ended his life after a lengthy battle with depression. Outside of his family, few people knew of Daniel's struggles.

"Do It for Daniel" is a film that documents Daniel's story and the impact of depression on young people and their families. Daniel's dad, Jeff, will be presenting the film and opening dialogue about mental health and teens in hopes of preventing this tragedy from happening to other families.

BHS is sponsoring a Meet and Greet from 4:30-5:30 p.m. before the evening event for key community stakeholders and Van Buren Public School employees in the Media Center at Belleville High School. There will be light refreshments served and an opportunity to meet with Jeff Olson.

Connie Testorelli said BHS would like to get this information out to as many community members as possible in light of recent events at BHS and in the community.

Watch a preview of the film at <http://www.doitfordaniel.com/documentary/>. For more information, contact Kim Bargardi at (734) 699-9133 or see kbargardi@vanburenschools.net.



Photo from the 2018 gathering

'Belleville Day in Florida' set for Feb. 6

If you'll be in Florida soon, consider attending the annual "Belleville Day" luncheon held on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at Citrus Hills Golf and Country Club in Citrus Hills, FL. The cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch, dessert, coffee or tea. To reserve your spot, send in the following information to the organizer: Lynn Gorman, P.O. Box 1781, Dunnellon, FL 34430. For

questions, her email address is lynn@gorcomm.com. With your \$25, include your meal choice: Chicken Marsala or Baked Haddock; your name(s) indicating number of people; email address; and phone number. RSVP by Jan. 28. The event runs from 12 to 4 p.m. Lunch is served at 1 pm. "We have a great time talking about Belleville people and places with each

other," said Gorman. "We have several retired teachers who come – in fact they are the ones who started this event more than 30 years ago, so it's fun to share school memories with them. There is always a lot of laughter in the room. We usually get about 30 people and we can accommodate a lot more than that, so please come! The food is great and we have a gift raffle."

Five transported to hospital after ambulance crash

Huron Valley Ambulance was heading north on Haggerty Road on its way to Beaumont Hospital in Wayne at about 1 p.m. Friday when it was broadsided by a car as it went through a red light at the Ecorse Road intersection.

The ambulance was being driven by a Van Buren Township fire fighter so the two

EMTs could work on the woman patient in the back of the unit.

The four in the ambulance and the woman who drove the car that struck the ambulance all were transported to different hospitals in several different ambulances.

The incident began at about 12:46 p.m. Friday when motorists noticed a woman slumped over the wheel of her car on Haggerty Road between the railroad tracks and E. Huron River Dr. in VBT.

VBT police and fire fighters responded to the call and the woman was found to be suffering from an apparent stroke. She was

put into the HVA unit and the fire fighter took the wheel at about 12:56 p.m. and headed north to Beaumont.

When they arrived at the Ecorse intersection, the ambulance driver slowed down through the intersection, as required, and was hit by the car, which flipped the ambulance over on its side, according to a report by the Michigan State Police.

Inside the ambulance, two ambulance workers were injured, but were later reported to be in stable condition at the hospital.

(continued on page 10)

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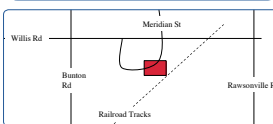
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SECOND FRONT PAGE



Independent photos by James Oztzman

Construction is progressing on the new, two-story Belleville Area District Library building in downtown Belleville next to the present library. The District Library Board broke ground for the \$10 million building on April 14, 2018 and is looking for completion this fall. O'Neal Construction is coordinating the building.



Construction is progressing on the new 34th District Court building in Romulus. This was how it looked on Sunday. The city broke ground for the \$17 million building on April 23, 2018 and is looking for completion this fall. The new, two-story building will be 50,000 square feet in size. It is being built just west of the present single-story court building which is 26,000 square feet in size. AUCH Construction is the builder.

OPINIONS

Editorial

Library gets largest donation from Atchinson Family

Just before Christmas the Belleville Area District Library received its largest legacy donation from the Atchinson Family, owners of the local Ford dealership. The \$92,500 donation names the library atrium, at the entry, for the Atchinson Family, along with naming the outdoor flagpole for Todd Atchinson, who died Nov. 17 at the age of 50.

This brings the total legacy donations, so far, to \$300,000.

At Tuesday's meeting of the Belleville Area District Library Board, chairwoman Sharon Peters said the donations are a statement of how the public feels about the library.

She said when the library was over-budget for its new building, people reached out to help put the amenities back into the plans. The library offered the public a chance to have a legacy by being part of the library, having your name on something, beyond paying the new taxes.

"People stepped up so well," she said, noting it was the quality of services at the library that has inspired the community to reach out with donations. She attributed the quality services offered to present director Mary Jo Suchy and former director Deb Green. Green had been working to get a district library agreement for 20 years and a new building for 10.

Many more donations have come in and will be acknowledged. The Atchinson donation, however, was the one that knocked their socks off.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

On Saturday, a huge crowd turned out at Bethany Bible Church for an almost two-hour funeral service for Pastor John Losen, Sr. There was a lot of choral music and singing by those present because Pastor Losen had asked his family to plan that for the service. He had spent much of his life making music and would break into song in the middle of a sermon, we're told. He left a family of musical talents. It was a wonderful service that was a celebration with no place for sadness.

A Van Buren Township resident was getting his paperwork together in preparation for doing his taxes for 2018.

He showed me all the water bills he paid throughout the year until the end when his e-payment was refused because of his Belleville address. It had always been Belleville, but now that is wrong. It needs to be Van Buren Township, he's told.

He said he got a late fee of \$10 for his sewer bill that was finally refunded when he complained.

He came in to ask me why this is happening, since his zip code is the same as it's always been, the 48111 that covers both Belleville and Van Buren Township addresses (as well as Sumpter Township).

I explained to him that Van Buren Township wants to be a premier community and wants everyone to know where they live. Too many had thought they lived in Belleville, I'm told.

He wanted to know who, exactly, did this and I explained it was Clerk Leon Wright who contacted the postal service and had all the addresses changed for the 48111 people in Van Buren Township. Clerk Wright later



said everyone agreed, but there never was a vote by the board.

I remember the daylong workshop the board had with a SEMCOG representative several years ago. (They all got lunches and ate in front of me while my stomach growled. Finally, at the end, Trustee Jeff Jahr offered me some food, but I declined. He must have heard my stomach.)

Anyway, that was the meeting where it was discussed how important it was for a municipality to have an identity. Everyone on the board agreed then that people needed to know they lived in Van Buren Township, not Belleville. There was talk about VBT getting its own zip code, but I guess that wasn't possible.

Apparently, it was possible to change everyone's addresses. It has upset the lives of some of the people in the City of Belleville and some of the people in Sumpter Township, who now have Van Buren Township addresses. People have had to deal with their medical and car insurances. One person in Sumpter had to go through a fake "change of address" procedure for the title to a vehicle.

Hope the man's taxes turn out OK.

Another Van Buren Township resident came into our office to complain about all the trash thrown out along Rawsonville Road between the I-94 exit ramps and where she lives in Presidential Estates.

She said it was very embarrassing for her

to have company over the holidays and have them drive from the freeway through the trash bags and other stuff along that part of Rawsonville. It made it look like she and her husband lived in a bad part of town, I guess.

She asked who would clean it up and I really didn't know. Rawsonville is on the border line between Wayne and Washtenaw counties, and Washtenaw takes care of the plowing and maintenance.

At Monday's Belleville City Council meeting, Mayor Kerreen Conley mentioned the suicide awareness program being taken to the community at Belleville High School on Thursday, Jan. 10, will be presented to the students on Friday. There have been too many suicides in our community and the school is reaching out so people will recognize clues to suicidal behavior.

One of our customers came in to pay his bill and mentioned that the back end of his truck was hit by a BMW as he was turning left onto N. Liberty after crossing the Belleville Bridge. He stopped and found there was no damage to his truck, since the car hit his tow fixture, but the side of the car was torn up. He said many people have said a left turn signal is needed there.





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-- John Lennon

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Letters

Belleville, Huron high schools offer Lacrosse

To the editor:

Last May, the Van Buren School Board approved making Lacrosse an official varsity spring sport beginning with the 2018-19 school year. They also approved a cooperative agreement with Huron High School in New Boston, meaning students that attend Huron High School are eligible to play for the Belleville Lacrosse team.

Lacrosse has been a successful club sport at the youth, junior varsity and varsity levels since 2007. This decision by the school board will make Lacrosse more available and affordable for students from Belleville and Huron to play the sport.

The spring season will be coming up soon (March through June) and BLAA (Belleville Lacrosse Athletic Association), which is the entity running the Belleville/Huron youth programs, are looking for players that are interested in playing the spring season.

Although Lacrosse has been around Belleville since 2007, it is still a relatively unknown sport so BLAA is offering some upcoming training sessions for both the high school and youth players before the season starts.

High School Players: Jan. 16 – March 6 (Wednesdays); Location: High Velocity in Canton; Time: 3:30–5 p.m.

Youth Players: Jan. 19–March 2 (Saturdays); Location: Pryde in Canton; Time: 10 – 11 a.m.

If you have a student (3rd grade through 12th grade) from Belleville or Huron interested in playing and want to get into the sessions, please contact the BLAA Board at Bellevillelaxboosters@gmail.com for sign-up or to answer any questions you may have.

BLAA is also having a Bowling Fundraiser at Lodge Lanes that is open to the public on Friday, Jan. 11, at Lodge Lanes in Belleville with check-in starting at 6:30 p.m. Cost is \$25/person which gets you two games of bowling, shoes, and one pizza per lane. There will be raffles, 50/50, and other prizes.

All proceeds go to BLAA to support and fund our youth Lacrosse program. Space is limited so if you are interested in tickets, please contact us at Bellevillelaxboosters@gmail.com.

Mark Platt, president, and Belleville Lacross Athletic Association Board

Thank you, God

To the editor:

Please print this letter to God.

Thank you, God, for your Generous Gift.

Patricia So., Sumpter Township

It's time for Little League registration

To the editor:

Happy New Year to everyone from the Van Buren Area Little League. Now that the holidays are over it's time to start thinking spring and with spring comes Little League baseball and softball.

Registration for the 2019 Spring VBALL Season is now open on line at <http://www.vanburenarealittleleague.org>. We will also be holding on-line walk-in registration at the Wayne County Community College - Ted Scott campus on Haggerty Road. These registration dates are Wednesday, Jan. 16, from 6-8 p.m.; Saturday, Jan. 19, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Wednesday, Feb. 20, from 6 to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, Feb. 23, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

We offer discounts for families registering more than 1 child: 10% for two children and 20% for three or more children playing baseball or softball for Van Buren Area Little League.

Don't wait too long to sign your children up. Registration closes March 4, 2019 and NO late registrations will be accepted. Sign up and help this be the best year ever for the Van Buren Area Little League.

Marc Littleson
President of VBALL



Jan. 10 – Ambre Mosley, Blake Broughton
Jan. 12 – Stephanie Smith
Jan. 13 – Kathi Patton
Jan. 17 – Leon Wright
Jan. 19 – Bryce Kelley

Do you have a birthday in January? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

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— Albert Einstein

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AA Environmental Commission seeks action on supply of KI tablets

From the January newsletter of Citizens' Resistance at Fermi Two (CRAFT):

The City of Ann Arbor's Environmental Commission wants to harmonize radiation protection for its citizens with what Canadians are now getting for the Fermi-2 reactor.

The commission unanimously approved the resolution co-authored by Beyond Nuclear asking that the Mayor and City Council request the Washtenaw County Public Health Department, the State of Michigan and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission to strategically stockpile potassium iodide tablets (KI) for the population within the city, the county, and the 50-mile emergency planning zone around Fermi-2.

City officials want the public health department and nuclear regulatory authority to harmonize the protective actions for their citizens with international best practices for the same reactor site.

A copy of that resolution follows, in case anyone wants to adapt one for their community.

A City Council Resolution to Strengthen Nuclear Emergency Planning for the Population of the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan

(Amended and Adopted by the
Environmental Commission of Ann Arbor,
MI, Dec. 6, 2018)

WHEREAS, the American Thyroid Association (ATA), a leading public health organization dedicated to the prevention and population-level risk reduction of thyroid disease, has called for the international harmonization of best-practice standards for direct pre-distribution and stockpiling of nonprescription potassium iodide (KI) around nuclear power plants;

WHEREAS, timely and appropriate ingestion of KI is recognized around the world as a safe and effective public health protection measure for preventing cases of thyroid cancer caused by exposure to radioactive iodine (I-131) in the event of a nuclear accident;

WHEREAS, Canada responded to Japan's 2011 Fukushima nuclear power plant accident by strengthening KI distribution requirements to improve radiological emergency preparedness for Canadians;

WHEREAS, the U.S. government and the State of Michigan did not respond in kind, thus leaving Americans with unequal KI protection coverage compared to Canadians, particularly in the case where one nuclear power plant straddles both countries;

WHEREAS, the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan is located within the international 50-mile emergency planning ingestion pathway zone (IPZ) of the Fermi-2 nuclear power plant in southeast Michigan near Ontario;

WHEREAS, the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan's Sustainability Framework

adopted in 2013 includes the goal of "Safe Community - Minimize the risk to public health and property from manmade and natural hazards";

WHEREAS, the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan's commitment to preparedness, resilience and safe community was reiterated in the City Council resolution to adopt the 2017 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT: The City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, supports the American Thyroid Association (ATA)'s call for the international harmonization of best-practice standards for direct pre-distribution and stockpiling of nonprescription potassium iodide (KI) around nuclear power plants;

The City of Ann Arbor, Michigan calls for Washtenaw County, the State of Michigan and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to provide the same

level and quality of KI protection coverage to Ann Arbor residents as is provided by Canadian authorities to Ontario residents living an equal distance from the Fermi-2 nuclear power plant near the U.S.-Canada international border;

The City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, located near the Fermi-2 nuclear power plant, supports the ATA's call for maintenance of a strategic stockpile of KI in communities out to 50-miles from an actively operating nuclear power plant, to be held in local public facilities such as schools, hospitals, clinics, post offices, and police and fire stations for distribution to the population upon notification by local public health officials;

The City of Ann Arbor, Michigan administrator shall send a copy of this resolution by certified mail, upon passage, to each of the affected official parties

mentioned herein.

Editor's Note: The tri-community of Belleville, Van Buren Township, and Sumpter Township is closer to the Fermi-2 nuclear power plant in Monroe, MI, than Ann Arbor.

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Mark Twain

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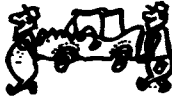
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Funeral Service

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Service Charge	\$4,730.00
Ceremonial Rental Casket	\$1,095.00
Register Book Package	\$140.00
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Obituaries



Marcia Jean Mason

MARCIA JEAN MASON

(October 6, 1952 - January 04, 2019)

Age 66, died peacefully at her daughter's residence, Friday evening, January 4, 2019.

Marcia is the beloved wife of Daniel for forty-nine wonderful years; dear mother of Daniel (Dell) Mason Jr. of Inkster, Shyla (Roger) Tacia of Westland and Brandie Dobbins of Belleville; cherished daughter of Pearl Howell of Tennessee; grandmother of Matthew Tacia, Brendan Tacia, Nicholas Tykoski and Natalie Tykoski. Mrs. Mason is also survived by her siblings, James Howell of Tennessee, Jeannette Bazinet of Allen Park, Melva Howell of Allen Park and Charles Howell of Tennessee; and many loving extended family and friends. Sadly, she is preceded in death by her father Hillard Howell (d.1993), grandson Jordan Koger (d.2011), and brother-in-law David Mason (d.2018).

A thirty-year bus driver with the Van Buren Public Schools, Marcia is a longtime Sumpter Township resident. In her spare time, Mrs. Mason enjoyed fishing, sewing and seasonal trips to Florida and to Northern Michigan. Most importantly, spending time with her family was most important.

Funeral services will be held at 6 PM, Thursday, January 10, 2019 in the Main Chapel of the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville. (734) 697-4500. The Mason family will greet guests from 10 AM until the time of the 6 PM service.

In lieu of customary tributes, please consider the American Cancer Association.



Nancy Ann Burgher

NANCY ANN BURGER

(September 4, 1933 - January 5, 2019)

Nancy Ann Burgher, 85, of Belleville, passed away January 5, 2019. Loving mother of Kathleen (Jeffrey) McLaughlin, Marlene (Ronald) Mills and Brenda Gaston. Dearest grandmother of Jennette, John, Kellie, Nicole, Keith, and Josh. Dear great-grandmother of Brandon, Deacon, Memphis, Bristol, Harley, Presley, Elvis, Connor, and Lucy. She is also survived by her brother Danny (Betty) McCrary. She was preceded in death by her father Gus McCrary, her mother Hazel Zoltek, brother Joseph and Ronald McCrary and her sister Margaret. Nancy's loves were games, puzzles, music, and her piano.

Visitation will be 1-8 p.m. Thursday, January 10, 2019 at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (734) 783-2646. Services will be at noon on Friday, January 11, 2019 at the funeral home chapel. Entombment will be in Michigan Memorial Park.



Dolores M. LaFleur

DOLORES M. LaFLEUR

(January 20, 1933 - December 29, 2018)

Mrs. Dolores M. LaFleur, 85 of Ypsilanti passed away suddenly at her home on December 29, 2018. She was born on January 20, 1933 in Vassar, Michigan, a daughter of John and Emily Jacob. In November of 1979 she was married to David LaFleur in Southfield. The couple then moved to Westland. Mr. LaFleur preceded her in death in March of 1985.

Dolores was a member of AA for over 40 years where she met and married Mr. LaFleur. Her AA life was dedicated to sobriety and she was very active both in Belleville and Ypsilanti fellowship. Her other passion was the family compound known as "The Lake" in northern Montcalm County. Here she spent spring, summer and fall before heading south to winter at her condo in Ypsilanti.

She is survived by her loving children Norma Weems of Farmington Hills and Jim (Betsy) Weems of Grand Rapids. Dolores was the proud Grandma of 5 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother Richard, sisters Linda and Denise, and many cousins, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband David LaFleur, daughter Nancy Schuette, grandson Joseph Weems, brothers Fred and Ron Jacob, sister Janet Lawrence, and former husband, James W. Weems.

Visitation for Mrs. LaFleur was held on Saturday, January 5, 2019 from 1 p.m. until the time of the service at 4 p.m. at the Higginson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville. (734) 697-9400. Pastor Drex Morton officiated. Cremation Rites have been accorded. In keeping with Dolores' wishes she will be laid to rest in the spring at "The Lake." Memorial contributions in Mrs. LaFleur's name are suggested to Alcoholics Anonymous, General Service Office, Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163 and would be greatly appreciated by her family.

LAURA LORETTA FREESE

(March 26, 1943 - January 03, 2019)

Age 75 of Pontiac. Survived by children Julia, John Jr., Luann and Jason; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a sister Carma. Services were held January 7 at the David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

www.davidcbrownfh.com

KATHIE ANN WOODS

Kathie Ann Woods, age 69, of Traverse City, passed away on Saturday, December 29, 2018 at her home. Per Kathie's request, cremation has taken place and services will be held at a later date. Share a memory at www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com. The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services is serving the family.

**More Obituaries
on page 8**

Obituaries



Cathy Ann Stabnau-Held

CATHY ANN STABNAU-HELD

(May 17, 1951 - January 4, 2019)

Age 67, of Van Buren Township. Died unexpectedly at her residence early Friday morning, January 4, 2019.

Cathy is the loving wife of Gary Held for thirty-two wonderful years; beloved mother of Katie (Jonathan) Williams of Belleville; dear sister of Charles (Dorothy) Stabnau of New York; and is also survived by many loving extended family and friends.

Born on May 17, 1951 to Roy (Janet) Stabnau in Detroit, Cathy was a lifelong Van Buren Township resident. She taught at the elementary school level for her entire career and was fond of her students and watching them grow and succeed. In her spare time, she enjoyed socializing, baking and listening to Motown music.

Funeral Services were held at 11 a.m. January 7, 2019 at the First United Methodist Church of Belleville, 417 Charles St., Belleville. Cathy's family greeted guests from 10 a.m. Interment followed at Hillside Cemetery, Belleville. The Reverend James Walker of First United Methodist Church officiated her service.

Visiting hours were held Sunday from 2 until 8 p.m. at the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville, (734) 697-4500.

In lieu of customary tributes, memorial contributions may be directed to the Huron Valley Humane Society.



Roxie Laverne Harrell

ROXIE LAVERNE HARRELL

(September 25, 1945 - January 5, 2019)

Age 73, of Sumpter, died with her family at her side at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital-Ann Arbor Campus on Saturday evening, January 5, 2019. Roxie is the beloved wife of John Harrell for fifty-three wonderful years, cherished mother of William Harrell of Willis, and beloved grandmother of John M. of Willis. Mrs. Harrell is also survived by her two brothers, Bobby (Linda) Bowman and Woody (Dorothy) Bowman, in addition to many nieces, nephews and cousins that loved her so dearly.

Born on September 25, 1945 in McAndrews, Kentucky to Taubey (Kathleen Leedy) Bowman, Roxie was known for her kind and loving ways and she was always a blessing to her church family and everyone who knew her. A member of Belleville Freewill Baptist Church for forty-six years, she had a love for singing, her favorite song was "I'm A Winner Either Way" and enjoyed having Reverend Walker Harris as her pastor for twenty years at Belleville Freewill Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 AM, Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at the David C. Brown Funeral Home of Belleville.

The Reverend Walker Harris (*Ret.*) and The Reverend Joseph Kennedy of the Ypsilanti Missionary Baptist Church officiated Roxie's service. Interment followed at Union-Udell Cemetery, Ypsilanti. Visitation was held on Tuesday from 2 - 8 PM at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, tributes may be directed to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.



Ray Sterling Mott

RAY STERLING MOTT

(April 12, 1940 - January 1, 2019)

Ray S. Mott, 78, of Belleville, Michigan passed away peacefully on Tuesday, January 1, 2019. Ray was a loving husband to his surviving wife, Betty Mott (Fields) for nearly 60 years. They would have celebrated this milestone anniversary this coming Valentine's Day.

He is also survived by his children, Jerry (Denise) Mott, Tony (Geri-Lee) Mott, Debra (Erik) Eastridge, and Crystal (Phil) Mason. He is the proud grandfather to 6: Julie (Kevin) Glynn, Ray Mott, Aaron (Jenna) Mott, Emily (Jordan) Zundel, Trevor Mason, and Seth Eastridge. Great-grandfather to 5: Alexa and Tyler Glynn; and Addison, Lucas, and Jackson Zundel. He is also survived by his sisters Juda (Donald) Dunavin and Mattie Aiello.

Ray is preceded in death by his parents, Herbert and Lottie Mott; his brothers Elmer "Pete" Mott, John Edgar Mott, and Ernest Mott; his sisters Dorothy Crumley, Juanita McCulley, Mary Kincannon and Helen Ullisch.

Ray will always be remembered for the love and devotion he had for his family and his beloved little dog, Harley, who never left his side. He spent his years supporting all of his kids in their activities, especially motocross. He also enjoyed hunting, fishing, betting on horses at the race track, his lotto, and tinkering on anything in the garage.

A celebration of Ray's life will be held at a later date.



William P. Woodby

WILLIAM P. WOODBY

(September 14, 1937 - December 15, 2018)

William P. Woodby, 81, of Belleville passed away peacefully on Saturday, December 15, 2018 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born in Manchester, Michigan, on September 14, 1937 to the late Ida and Roy Woodby.

William is survived by his wife Melba of 62 years; his children, Scott Woodby (Pegg), Donald Woodby (Pam) and Laurie Lazorka (the late Thomas); and grandfather to James Lowe, Sara Tesner (DJ), Adam Lazorka, Ian Woodby, Tyler Lazorka, and Parker Lazorka; and great-grandfather of Gabe Rister.

After enlisting in the Navy, he worked for Ford Motor Company for 31 years.

There will be a "Celebration of Life" luncheon at Fellow Creek Golf Club at 2936 S. Lotz Road, Canton, Michigan 48188 on Sunday, February 17, from 2 to 5 p.m. He will be laid to rest at Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly, Michigan. Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice in memory of William Woodby, Development Office, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, Michigan 48154.

www.angelahospice.org

More Obituaries on page 7

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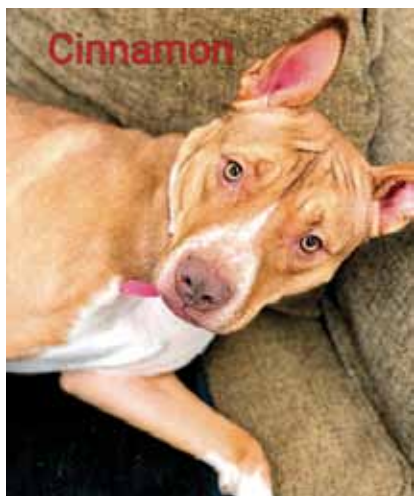
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ORPHAN OF THE WEEK "CINNAMON"



Sweet and spicy, that's our **Cinnamon**! She's a 1 year and 8 month old Terrier/Pitbull mix ready for her fur-ever home. She is requesting a home where she can snuggle on the couch and give kisses as much as she likes. She also loves exploring outside and is really excited about sharing walks through the woods with you. **Cinnamon** is a smart cookie too! She has showed us she's very attentive to commands and will just need consistent work to improve her listening skills. She is friendly, affectionate and will keep you engaged with her zest for life. Previous caretakers have told us is will chase after smaller pets so a home without cats or small dogs will be best for her. Her pretty cinnamon and white colored coat is short and easy to care for and her adorable pointy ears stand tall whenever she is investigating the world around her. Come meet **Cinnamon** today, we guarantee you will love her as much as we do. She's already spayed, vaccinated and micro-chipped so call **Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more information.

Chamber of Commerce announces nominees for three awards

The Belleville Chamber of Commerce has announced the nominees for three awards that will be given out at its annual banquet on Jan. 12.

• Business of the Year: Moving the Mitten, Garden Fantasy on Main, and Twisted Rooster

• Ted Kuckelman Award: Candace Streeter, SOOAR; Kathleen Springer, founder of the

Belleville Community page on Facebook; Speed and Joyce Gant, Yankee Air Force

• Leona Van Buhler Award: Amanda Kennicott, TCF Bank; Kevin Walsh, Yankee Air Force

Chamber Executive Director Paul Henning invites the public to come to the awards banquet to find out who wins.

The event will be at the Angel Food

Catering Garage, 44850 North I-94 Service Drive, from 6 to 10 p.m. The signature drink will be by Egan's Pub and entertainment by Derek Rafferty.

Tickets are \$70 at the door or online. For information, call Henning at (734) 697-7151.

Get special Valentine pictures of pets at FMAR fund raiser

Pet Valentine pictures will be taken from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 9, at Friends of Michigan Animals, 51299 Arkona Rd., Sumpter Township, as a fund raiser for the no-kill shelter.

A \$10 donation gets you one printed picture and one emailed picture. A \$15 donation gets you one printed picture, one collage text, and a pet toy.

For more information, call the shelter at (734) 461-9458.

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Ambulance

(continued from page 1)

The 25-year-old woman ambulance worker reportedly had a broken nose, head laceration, a possible broken shoulder / collarbone, and bruises. The 45-year-old man had bruising, swelling on the arms and head, and a possible pelvis injury.

According to the MSP, the 79-year-old woman patient was "alive upon transport to the hospital but has a non-life-sustaining brain bleed due to the original reason for transport (stroke) and is in very critical

Things to do at the Metroparks in January

Mug for the Birds

Saturday, Jan. 12 -- 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.; Lake Erie Marshlands Museum, Brownstown

Do you ever look into your yard and wonder how you can attract more birds, or maybe just help them through the winter? This family-friendly craft, up-cycles some of your old coffee or tea cups into feeders for your back yard. Join us and learn how to make a healthy, natural food source for your backyard birds! This is a B.Y.O.M. (Bring Your Own Mug) program. \$3 child, \$5 adult.

Pre-register at (734) 379-5020 or email kevin.arnold@metroparks.com
www.metroparks.com

Drop-in Owl Pellet Dissecting Day

Sunday, Jan. 13 -- 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lake Erie Marshlands Museum, Brownstown.

Stop in anytime between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and learn about owls, owl pellets, and get your very own owl pellet dissection kit. Our staff will help you work through the pellet to discover what the owl had for lunch, and we will attempt to put the skeleton of the animal back together. \$5 per pellet.

Pre-register at (734) 379-5020 or email kevin.arnold@metroparks.com
www.metroparks.com

Knitting in Nature: Sharing Stitches

Saturday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m. Oakwoods Nature Center, Flat Rock.

From beginner to expert, let's get together, relax, knit, crochet, teach and learn. Have a cup of coffee and a treat or two and make some new friends! This is not a class on knitting or crocheting. This is a monthly gathering of people who love to knit and crochet and want to "share stitches." Donation appreciated.

Pre-register at 734-782-3956.

www.metroparks.com

condition." She later died in the hospital

The fire fighter complained of neck and back pain. He was identified through the social media as VBT Fire Fighter/Police Sgt. Marc Abdilla.

The 69-year-old female driver, who police say was at fault in the crash, suffered

a broken ankle, according to police.

When Van Buren Township police learned that one of their fire fighters was driving the ambulance, it called on MSP Metro South Post to investigate the crash.

Romulus Fire Department was also called by VBT for mutual aid to close the I-275

ramp to Ecorse while the intersection was blocked by operations of the emergency crew.

Those on the scene said the presence of a semi truck at the intersection may have blocked the view of both the HVA unit and the woman's car.

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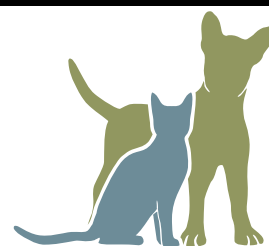
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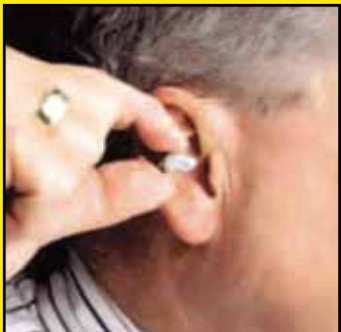
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Moving the Mitten Real Estate Group in Downtown Belleville invites everyone to attend one of their two, free, home-buyer seminars coming up on Wednesday, Jan. 16, from 6 to 8 p.m. or Saturday, Jan. 19, from noon to 2 p.m. at their offices at 337 Main Street. They'll show you the steps to home ownership and explain the new MSHDA Down Payment Assistant Program that's available. Registration can be made online at www.mtm-hbs-jan19.eventbrite.com or by email at offers@movingthemitten.com.

Belleville Co-op senior community on Sumpter Road offers subsidized rental, individual heating and cooling, on-site laundry, and available transportation, just to name a few of their amenities. They're offering tours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 9 a.m. to noon. To schedule one, call (800) 593-3052 and visit www.csi.coop. Be sure to see their ad on Page 2.

Threads 'n' Treasure Quilt Shop on South Street continues their half off everything in the store sale. Items include fabric, notions, patterns, books, quilts, shelving, and more. They're open Monday thru Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (734) 697-9376.

The Plymouth Ice Festival gets underway tomorrow evening and runs through Sunday in Downtown Plymouth. Perfect with colder weather here as Mother Nature seems to arrive right on time, year after year for this event, now in its 37th year. Visit www.Plymouthicefestival.com.

The Belleville Lacrosse Athletic Association is looking for youth and high school athletes from the tri community to join their spring lacrosse season. Winter training schedules are available and will take place on Wednesdays, Jan. 16-March 6, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. at High Velocity in Canton. Youth players are scheduled for Saturdays, starting Jan. 19 through March 2. Students 3rd grade through 12th are welcome. Belleville Lacrosse has teamed up with New Boston Huron to take part in high school varsity games this spring. To learn more and to register, email Bellevillelaxboosters@gmail.com. A bowling fundraiser for the lacrosse program is coming up this Friday, January 11 at Lodge Lanes in Belleville. The cost is \$25 per person with check-in starting at 6:30 p.m. The ticket includes two games of bowling, shoes, and one pizza per lane. Space is limited.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020. There is no charge to be in this column.

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First BHS Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony set for Jan. 18

The public is invited to the first Belleville High School Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony at halftime of the BHS boys' basketball game vs. Wayne Memorial High School at 7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 18. Admission is \$5.



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GoFundMe account started to honor the late Pastor John Losen

Jerry McKelvey of Van Buren Township has announced a new GoFundMe page to earn money for a small memorial and a scholarship in memory of Pastor John Losen, Sr., who died Dec. 29 at the age of 86.

Losen was a pastor for 60 years and served Bethany Bible Church in Belleville for 48 years.

McKelvey said the fundraiser is to provide funds for a small memorial in Pastor Losen's memory at Bethany Bible Church and, if sufficient funds are raised,

to establish a scholarship fund to assist those who are called to become ministers of the Gospel.

McKelvey said he is initiating this on his own and should it succeed in raising sufficient monies, a committee will be appointed to manage and distribute the funds.

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Calling All Singers: Belleville Chorus to begin spring rehearsals

Belleville's award-winning Community Chorus under the direction of Rachael Parr continues its 13th season as it begins rehearsals for its spring concert season. Rehearsals begin at 7 p.m., Monday, Jan. 14, at First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles St., Belleville.

The chorus invites all singers to join in, whether they are new to the group or have sung with it in the past. If you sing soprano, alto, tenor, bass, or you're not really sure, you're welcome to be part of this group.

The Belleville Community Chorus is a non-profit organization, made up of volunteers of all ages who love to sing. It performs a variety of choral music for the enrichment, education, and enjoyment of its members and audiences from the surrounding communities.

Not a singer? The chorus can always use a few helpful people who would be willing to help coordinate the organization behind the scenes.

For more information, contact Paula Pence-Poston at (734) 725-1425 or email mstpaula35@hotmail.com. Or, check the website at www.bellevillechorus.com.

Upcoming Meetings

- Thursday, Jan. 10 – Keystone Academy school board, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m.
- Monday, Jan. 14 – Van Buren Township work/study session at 4 p.m. Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education organizational meeting, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 15 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, Jan. 22 – Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 23 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- Monday, Feb. 4 – Van Buren Township work/study session at 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 12 – Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 13 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

Reps. Bellino, Howell: New law clears the way for wetlands restoration

A plan to cut senseless regulation standing in the way of local efforts to restore precious wetlands, spearheaded by Rep. Gary Howell and Rep. Joe Bellino was signed into law Jan. 4 by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

"Previously, the laws on the books treated volunteer organizations who wanted to restore our wetlands the same as big developers with plans to disrupt natural features," Howell, of North Branch, said. "This plan removes the obstacles to good stewardship of our wetlands and encourages conservation volunteerism."

Bellino of Monroe agreed: "Many of the regulations faced by volunteer groups simply don't fit, and it made no sense to create needless complications and delays because the laws treated volunteers as though they were big development corporations. I am pleased to see this plan to help restore our wetlands signed into law."

The plan laid out in House Bills 5854 and 5855, now Public Acts 561 and 562 of 2018, establishes a voluntary wetland restoration permit process that allows the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to better consider the effects of a proposed project as it relates to the health of the entire ecosystem.

"This is a smart solution that will help restore more wetlands and benefit all of our fish and wildlife population," Bellino said.

"Public policy should reward and incentivize good stewardship of our natural resources, not serve as an obstacle, and that's exactly what this bill achieves," Howell said.

Rep. Bellino, R, represents Sumpter Township in Lansing.

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Publish: Jan. 10, 2019, Jan. 17, 2019

PUBLIC AUCTION

NOTICE is hereby given that on January 26, 2019 at 12:00 p.m., Full House Self Storage at 7886 Belleville Rd., Belleville, MI 48111 is holding a public auction. Unit(s) may or may not include the following: household items, recreational items, appliances, furniture, misc.

L516, Johnny's On the Lake; C114, Latase C Walls; Q905, Tasha Davis; T980, Tonia Fletcher; M582, Amber Erby; M564, Joshua Tromblee; L538, Mylen Porter; F274, James Linebaugh; T965, Dianne McClellan; I421, Timothy Thompson.

Publish: Jan. 10, 2019, Jan. 17, 2019

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Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019 at 10 a.m.

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1999 Chrysler 300	2C3HE66G4XH544619	
2001 Dodge Dakota	1B7GL22X61S192526	
2001 Chrysler Concorde	2C3HD46R91H535124	
2004 Ford Taurus	1FAFP53U24A112502	
1996 Cadillac Eldorado	1G6EL12Y0TU613967	
2006 Chevrolet Malibu	1G1ZT53F5F6256466	
1990 Ford F150	1FTEX14N4LKA18197	
2010 Dodge Grand Caravan	2D4RN5D15AR135655	
2003 Ford Focus	3FAFP373X3R160825	
1999 Chevrolet Suburban	3GNFK16R1XG170946	
1989 Ford Ranger	1FTCR10A0KUB53197	
2002 KIA Sportage	KNDJA723825153426	
2009 Pontiac G6	1G2ZK57K294234088	
2006 BMW 750	WBAHN83536DT33902	
2001 Ford Mustang	1FAFP4461F128483	
2004 Chevrolet Uplander	1GNDV33L95D158662	
2012 Harley Davidson	1HD1GX410CC339077	
2000 Ford F150	1FTRX08L5YKA85192	
2006 Chevrolet Trailblazer	1GNDT13S962242673	
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These vehicles were towed by Sumpter Police Department.

Publish: January 10, 2019

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



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"The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom."

— Isaac Asimov

Court Watching:**Ladouceur felonious assault charge pled down to misdemeanor**

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

David Allen Ladouceur, 52, of Van Buren Township, pled guilty to a reduced charge of misdemeanor assault and battery and the felonious assault charge was dropped.

This was in 34th District Court Judge David Parrott's courtroom on Jan. 2.

Ladouceur said he assaulted his next-door neighbors, David Gohl and Janelle Gohl, in Belleville Manor mobile home park in Van

Buren Township on Sept. 22.

He was free on \$20,000 personal recognizance bond.

Ladouceur's court-appointed attorney told Judge Parrott that his client has a mental health problem and when he's feeling good doesn't take his medication.

Judge Parrott sentenced him to 12 months of probation, days on the work program, random drug and alcohol testing, no contact with the victims, and he must take his meds. His fees totaled \$1,445.

Brandon Michael Bires

Brandon Michael Bires, 36, pled no contest to use of a narcotic or cocaine, a misdemeanor, and the possession of narcotic or cocaine less than 25 grams, a

felony, was dismissed.

Bires said he had heroin and another drug on Aug. 9, 2017 in Van Buren Township.

Bires' retained attorney Steven Hyder said the prior convictions are not drug-related. He told Judge Parrott that his client is struggling with addiction and goes to the Rainbow Center every day for treatment, one on one with a counselor. He also attends Alcoholics Anonymous.

Hyder said Bires has faced his problem and his family is supporting him. His father was in the courtroom with him.

Judge Parrott granted him 7411 status and sentenced him to reporting probation, random testing, continuation with treatment at the Rainbow Center, a work crew assignment and a fine of \$1,645.

He had been free after posting \$10,000/10% bond and the returned bond, less a small fee, was deducted from his total fine, leaving a balance of \$545.

Michael Lee Crane

Michael Lee Crane, 41, was due for his probable cause conference on a felony charge of domestic violence on Dec. 19 in Sumpter Township, but he accepted a plea deal.

Domestic violence – 3rd offense was reduced by the Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor to simple domestic violence, a misdemeanor.

Court-appointed defense attorney Mark Perceda said the prosecutor spoke with the victim and, "She's good with this as long as he gets alcohol treatment."

Judge Parrott replied, "I'm not good with this...Third offense? I just had a second offense. They wanted me to slap them on the wrist..."

Perceda asked to approach the bench with the prosecutor for a sidebar conference in private. Judge Parrott allowed the sidebar and did not look happy as the conversation continued.

The case was put on hold as the defense attorney and prosecutor left the courtroom with Crane.

When the case was recalled a short time later, Perceda asked that the plea be amended to no contest, since Crane has no recollection of the incident because of intoxication.

Judge Parrott dismissed the felony charge as requested and accepted the misdemeanor plea. He sentenced Crane to 15 months of probation, eight days on the work program, and a total fine of \$1,945. He was sent to probation to be scheduled for all the stipulations of the sentence.

Ayana Sharee Robinson

Ayana Sharee Robinson was charged with misdemeanor domestic violence from an incident in a Van Buren Township group home. She was brought into the courtroom from lockup after being held in jail for a reported 14 days.

Her legal guardian and a representative from the group home were present and she was ready to plead no contest to the charge and return to the group home.

"I'm unwilling to follow the sentencing agreement," said Judge Parrott. "She's not a candidate for a criminal charge. I'm going to give her credit for time served and

send her on her way."

Court-appointed defense attorney Jeff Bowdich said the prosecutor was behind the move for mercy in this case, since this is a special-needs defendant.

"She is not a candidate for probation," Judge Parrott said. "This is a social service issue not criminal. Probation is simply setting her up for failure." He urged the defense attorney and prosecutor to go out and talk about this and come back before him.

A short time later, the prosecutor was back before Judge Parrott to say they will stick with a disorderly count with a no-contest plea because there was a failure of recollection. Robinson spent 14 days in jail and a sentence of time served was good, she said.

Judge Parrott said she was incarcerated on Dec. 18 and so he figures that as 16 days in jail, so that is her sentence.

When it was over Robinson asked if she could go home now. The group home representative said, "Hey, gorgeous. Let's go home" and they did.

Probable Cause Conferences

Scheduled for probable cause conferences on Jan. 2 before Magistrate Lisa Martin were the following:

- David Aaron Lipscomb, 20, charged with aggravated indecent exposure on Dec. 16 in Van Buren Township. Free on \$20,000 personal recognizance bond. Retained attorney Carl Jordan.

- Harry Odeal Little, Jr., 25, charged with two counts of criminal sexual conduct, 3rd degree, on Sept. 18, in Van Buren Township. Bond is \$50,000/10%. Retained attorney Joseph Arabbo.

- Mateo Anthony Mercado, 18, is charged with fleeing police in a vehicle, malicious destruction of police or fire property, high blood alcohol content, driving with an open container in vehicle, and possession of alcohol by a minor in a motor vehicle, on Dec. 23 in the City of Belleville. Bond is \$5,000 cash or surety. Court-appointed defense attorney.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Thursday, Jan. 10** – Belleville High School is hosting a suicide-awareness presentation for the community from 6-8 p.m. in the BHS Auditorium, 501 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville. Resources will be available before and after the presentation.

- **Saturday, Jan. 12** – Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce Golden Awards Dinner and Holiday Party is set for 6-10 p.m. at Angel Food Catering, 44850 N. I-94 Service Dr., Van Buren Township. Roaring 20s theme. Tickets are \$70 each. Information: Paul Henning, (734) 697-7151.

- **Sunday, Jan. 13** – Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's Albert Munis Band. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

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Paul Marcum recalls his death 20 years ago and why he came back

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Jan. 3, Paul Marcum of Van Buren Township recalled his death 20 years earlier and why he had to come back.

He's been telling the story of his out-of-body experience from the minute he was brought back to life with paddles from a heart attack.

Marcum, now 70, was a minister at the Downriver Assembly of God in Ecorse in 1999, and it was a Sunday. He was scheduled to be a guest speaker in Romulus, but, 18" of snow fell that Sunday and all the churches were closed.

He didn't have anything else to do, so he decided to clean off the snow from his van. He used a broom and moved some of the heavy snow from the van.

But he became lightheaded and weak. He went in the house and prayed and then went back out. He wasn't feeling well and he finally realized he was having a heart attack.

His wife Mary called for an ambulance, but it couldn't get into his city street in Ecorse, so a fire truck was used to push the snow forward so the ambulance could get to him.

He recalled his pain was a 7 out of 10 and it took five minutes to get to Wyandotte Hospital. There he was given a drug called TPA that he was told could be fatal, but he did much better for two hours and then he coded -- died.

He said he remembers instantly going to sleep and then he was in the Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Corinthians 5:8).

"I walked in a big court room and looked around. I didn't recognize anyone. Then, I saw Jesus behind a desk, talking and moving his head. I could see his features. My brother Billy, an ordained minister in West Virginia stood between us and told me, 'Paul, go back and tell them there is a judgment.'"

That's when Marcum said he came back and saw a doctor with a beard looming over him holding heart paddles. He told them immediately that he had an out-of-body experience and saw Jesus.

They put a stent in his "widow maker," the 100% clogged artery, and then put him on a heart pump and in a special ambulance to transfer him to Oakwood Hospital, which had better facilities.

In the ambulance with him was a young doctor with a Detroit Tigers cap on his head, a male and a female paramedic, and

a driver.

They had heard about his out-of-body experience and asked him to tell about it, so he whispered the story. He said it was difficult with the heart pump on him and he was weak, but he told his story.

Marcum said he recalls the female paramedic was crying and said she wanted to be saved. He said he told her, "You can get saved right now." He said he had saved hundreds of people in his career in the church.

The doctor took off his Tiger cap and said, he wanted to be saved, too. So did the other two. They prayed together.

Marcum told them they didn't have to belong to any denomination or religion, they just had to ask. "Believe in your heart, confess with your heart and you will be saved," he said, citing Romans 10: 9-10.

Marcum said his oldest son, Bo, who was away from the Lord at the time, was the first family member to join him at Oakwood.

"I told him, it's real. I just saw Jesus," he recalls. He remembers how this touched his son.

He said after treatment he got out of the hospital and could hardly walk. He said he had a pacemaker and a defibrillator.

He now goes to a doctor at Michigan Heart Center. He said a heart normally works at 55-70% of capacity and his heart was 35% when his heart attack happened. He said his doctor said now it is 18-20%.

He's been taken by ambulance five times since then and retired from the ministry in 2013 to reduce the stress.

After his heart attack, he was concerned about the cost of the treatment, some \$30,000 worth, but between the time he went in to the hospital on Sunday and got out on Thursday, his wife had received \$15,000 in donations from churches that knew him. At that point he had been an evangelist for five years.

He went to work for Ford Motor Co. when he first came to Michigan from West Virginia. His brother Billy led him to the Lord in 1978 and he left Ford after 15 years to become a minister. He was ordained by Assembly of God 40 years ago.

He said his World Church Organization insurance he had paid his hospital bills.

He said he and his wife, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last June, purchased their house in Ecorse for \$28,000. After his heart attack, his brother came from West Virginia and redid the



Pastor Paul and Mary Marcum

house for them and they were able to sell it for \$85,000 when they left Ecorse to come to the Belleville area in 2002.

He said he was in Honduras on a missionary trip when God told him to come to Belleville. He said he prayed with his sons the next morning and the next day he got a call from a pastor in Cheboygan.

"I saw you and your sons pray in a vision," the pastor told him. "You need to do whatever it is, so we can get some sleep."

Marcum said when he got to Belleville there were 10 members at the church at 870 Savage Road.

He brought 15 members with him and the church returned to the Assembly of God denomination. The River of Life Assembly of God now has attendance of 200-250 in two services every Sunday.

The church is planning to break ground on a new sanctuary this summer and members are going through the preliminaries with Van Buren Township building officials. Assembly of God members in different building fields will be coming in RVs to

help with the construction.

He said he goes to church regularly, but his sons now are pastoring the church. Eddie Marcum is the senior pastor and Stephen Marcum is assistant pastor.

Marcum said since it was the 20th anniversary of his near-death experience, he felt moved to share it with *Independent* readers. Maybe a heart will be touched, he said.

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Mary Talaga submits resignation as crossing guard after 57 years

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Mary Talaga will end her service as a school crossing guard at the E. Huron River Drive – Edgemont Avenue intersection after 57 years of service.

At Monday's regular meeting of the Belleville City Council, Mayor Kerreen Conley announced that Talaga had submitted her letter of resignation and she will end her service on Jan. 18.

Mayor Conley recognized Talaga and her family in the audience and asked them to come back on the first meeting in February when the council will recognize her for her many years of service.

"I enjoyed every bit of it, but it's time," Talaga said.

"We're not ready to say goodbye yet,"

Mayor Conley said. "Come back Feb. 4 so we can honor you."

Later Talaga said she will continue to work in the lunchroom at Edgemont Elementary School, so she isn't going to be fully retired from everything.

Members of the council each said they will miss seeing Talaga out at the corner on school mornings.

Councilman Jesse Marcotte said there will be a fence-painting party in the future for Talaga.

In another matter, a woman who identified herself as Eileen, said she and her husband have been renting a home for two years in Belle Villa.

"Can a landlord force you to pay taxes on a rental property?" she asked, noting it was a school tax.

"You would have to take that up with your landlord or an attorney," Mayor Conley replied and Eileen said she has taken it up with the landlord. She said this is not in the lease.

Eileen came to the city because that's who sent the tax bill, but Mayor Conley said the city sent the bill, but the money is a pass-through to the school.

Eileen said their home had been without water for three days without any notice – and that's in a senior community. She said when they went in to pay the rent on Friday, she said the landlord told her, "I will drive you to the dollar store to buy water and drive you back so you can flush your toilet."

"This is the 11th time we've been without water in two years and people are afraid to complain because they think they will be evicted," she said.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer pointed out the mobile home park and the condos have a private water system.

Eileen said the landlord said he texted a warning about the water shutoff to those who had cell phones, which she doesn't.

"There's nothing we can do," City Manager Kollmeyer said. "It's a private water system. We were aware of the shutdown."

It was suggested she might want to call the health department and she said she would do that.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

- Approved accounts payable of \$102,534.48 and the following purchases in excess of \$500: to Metro Environment, \$1,632.50 for Vactor service, and \$816.25 for jet sewer blockage, Water Dept.; to Miss Dig Systems, \$1,087.74 for utility marking, Water Dept.; to Cadillac Asphalt, \$917.70 for cold patch, Water/Streets; to Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks, \$600, for Clerk's Institute, Year 2, General

Fund/Clerk; and to Osborne Concrete, \$543, for cemetery footings, General Fund/Cemetery; and

- Went into closed-door session to discuss the status and strategy of pending union negotiations and then reconvened in open session only to adjourn.

Councilman Tom Smith was absent from the meeting.

Resolve to give blood with the Red Cross

The American Red Cross encourages people to help meet the urgent need for blood by resolving to give blood in January – National Blood Donor Month.

Make an appointment to donate blood or platelets by downloading the free American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in January:

- Jan. 10 – New Boston, 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m., Michigan Academy of EMS, 17612 Commerce Dr.
- Jan. 13 – Canton, 8:30 a.m. – 2:15 p.m., St. John Neumann Catholic Church, 44800 Warren Rd.; 8:30 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., St. John Neumann Catholic Church – Power Reds, 44800 Warren Rd.
- Jan. 17 – Canton, 11 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., Gardner White Furniture, 39453 Ford Rd.; 2-7:45 p.m., Gardner White Furniture, 39453 Ford Rd.
- Jan. 22 – Canton, 10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m., Canton Public Library, 1200 Canton Center Rd.; 11 a.m. – 4:45 p.m., Summit on the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway
- Jan. 25 – 12:30 – 6:15 p.m., Liberty Middle School, 46250 Cherry Hill Rd.
- Jan. 29 – 1:30-7:15 p.m., Geneva United Presbyterian, 5835 Sheldon Rd.

Augusta Charter Township Public Notice

Accepting Website Bids

Augusta Charter Township current website is outdated. It is not usable with cell phones, laptops or tablets. The contents are not being updated as needed. It is not user friendly and has no search features, therefore, the township is seeking bids for website design, hosting and maintenance. Please email Hrowland.augustatownship@gmail.com to obtain bid instructions and requirements.

Publish: December 20, 2018; December 27, 2018; January 3, 2019; January 10, 2019



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ADVENTIST COMMUNITY HEALTH

You are invited to participate in a free healthcare event coming to Belleville, MI

- Sunday February 24, 8 am - 5 pm
- Location: Edgemont Elementary School Gymnasium, 125 Edgemont St., Belleville, MI
- We are seeking dentists, eye doctors, hygienists and dental assistants who are community minded and have a desire to provide better health care for those in need.
- If you have questions or would like to register as a volunteer for this rewarding health event, contact:



Local Coordinators: Nathaniel Oregon - 918.902.9977 or Adam Woolf - 734.721.5330

E-mail - bellevillefreedentalclinic@gmail.com

Dental/Vision Coordinator: Randy Griffin, DDS at 317.409.3260 -- email: randy.griffin@lakeunion.org

All volunteers are covered by a \$10M malpractice/liability policy.

This event is sponsored by the Belleville Seventh-day Adventist Church

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Hermosillo-DeBoer Completes Merchant Marine Sea Year

Kings Point, NY – Midshipman Zachary Hermosillo-DeBoer, son of Alesia Hermosillo and Michael DeBoer, of Belleville recently completed Sea Year training at the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) at Kings Point, NY.

Hermosillo-DeBoer was nominated by Congresswoman Debbie Dingell of Michigan’s 12th congressional district and is a graduate of Belleville High School.

“The World is Our Campus” is emblematic of Sea Year, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy’s signature training program where midshipmen spend one year training aboard ocean going vessels.

Midshipman Hermosillo-DeBoer traveled to the Middle East, Far East, Arctic Circle, and U.S. East and West Coasts aboard the USNS Zeus, M/T Florida, and APL Belgium.

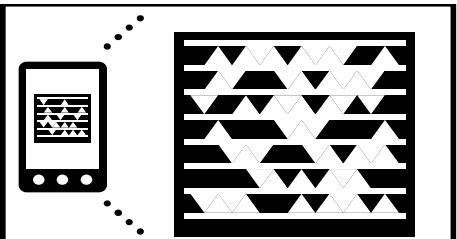
Sea Year is fundamental to the world-class maritime education provided by USMMA and is mandated by Congress. It is an immersive program in which midshipmen are assigned to commercial vessels as officers in training to learn maritime skills in a real-world environment and is unique to USMMA – nothing comparable is offered at any other college or university, including the four other federal service academies.

By the end of their Sea Year, midshipmen will have trained on a diverse portfolio of vessels such as container ships, roll-on-roll-off ships, bulk grain and ore ships, and oil tankers.

The United States Merchant Marine Academy is a federal service academy that educates and graduates licensed Merchant Marine officers. In addition to the rigorous academic and physical requirements for admission, applicants must be nominated by their Congressman or Senator.

All USMMA graduates earn both a Bachelor of Science degree and a Merchant Marine Officer license, and incur an obligation to serve the country as an active or reserve officer in the U.S. armed forces.

Last year marked the 75th anniversary of the dedication of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (1943-2018). Dedicated in wartime, USMMA has served the nation in both peace and war. As the first federal academy to admit women, USMMA also celebrated the 40th anniversary of the first women to graduate from any federal service academy. Learn more about the Academy at www.WeAreTheUSMMA.com.



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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for the past week, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Dec. 30:
0249 – suspicious person/vehicle, Celestine Dr.
0736 – shooting, Springwood Blvd.
0956 – property damage accident, Vista Dr.
1135 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
1252 – property damage accident, Ecorse/Morton Taylor
1428 – property damage accident, Vista/Paloma
1503 – private property/property damage accident, Bemis Rd.
1634 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1822 – domestic, Country Ln.
1827 – assist other dept., Rawsonville Rd.
1928 – suspicious person/vehicle, Martinsville / Savage
2327 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.

Monday, Dec. 31:
0154 – suspicious person/vehicle, Pond Bluff Dr.
0407 – larceny from auto, Lighthouse Dr.
0533 – 911 welfare check, Belleville Rd.
0640 – property damage accident, Ecorse Rd.
0744 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1036 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1125 – domestic, Lighthouse Dr.
1240 – property damage accident, Belleville / Auto Zone
1245 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1259 – noise complaint, Lighthouse Dr.
1500 – miscellaneous complaint, Stratford Dr.
1519 – property damage accident, E. Huron River Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1523 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1920 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1932 – shooting, Savage Rd./Sheldon Rd.
2024 – fight, Outer Dr.
2038 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
2104 – property damage accident, Brookview Dr.
2352 – domestic, Denton Rd.

Tuesday, Jan. 1:
0015 – shooting, Barnwell Dr.
0019 – shooting, Jackson St.
0058 – noise complaint, Oak Ln.
0743 – suspicious person/vehicle, Patty Ln.
0942 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Hamilton St.

1050 – property damage accident, E. I-94/Haggerty
1131 – hospice death, S. Ponderosa Trl.
1329 – animal complaint, Hull Rd.
1518 – animal complaint, Fairview Ct.
1535 – domestic, Maple Dr.
1818 – larceny, McBride Ave.
1931 – private property/property damage accident, Harmony Ln.
2134 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2151 – noise complaint, Wildflower Ct.
2226 – personal injury accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2320 – domestic, Denton Rd.
2332 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2346 – malicious destruction of property, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Wednesday, Jan. 2:
0101 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
0224 – fight, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0245 – suspicious person/vehicle, Anna Dr.
0314 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0637 – suspicious person/vehicle, Meadows Cir.
0920 – ordinance violation, Brookside Dr.
1018 – suspicious person/vehicle, Dewitt Rd.
1350 – ordinance violation, Riggs Rd.
1402 – private property/property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd.
1556 – domestic, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1825 – follow up by officer, Tyler Rd.
1904 – harassment call, Sandlewood Dr.
2006 – runaway, Lindsey Dr.
2016 – fraud, W. Huron River Dr.

Thursday, Jan. 3:
0457 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
0733 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Bellridge Dr.
0737 – suspicious person/vehicle, Hannan Rd.
1004 – domestic, Cobblestone Ct.

1017 – liquor inspection, all 4100 MICR codes, Haggerty Rd.
1125 – ordinance violation, Michigan Ave.
1235 – animal complaint, Riggs Rd.
1249 – fraud, Van Born
1315 – fraud, Red Oak Dr.
1316 – fraud, Red Oak Dr.
1331 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Bemis
1459 – domestic, Denton Rd.
1520 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.
1631 – threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1745 – property damage accident. S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
1756 – unauthorized driving away of auto, America
1848 – assault & battery, N. Ponderosa Trl.
1852 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Quirk Rd.
2121 – threat, Rawsonville Rd.
2132 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd./Tyler Rd.
2337 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bradley Dr.

Friday, Jan. 4:
0120 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Cumberland Dr. / Hanover Dr.
0930 – harassment call, Van Buren St.
1025 – assist other dept., S. Woodbury Dr.
1157 – fraud, Ormond Dr.
1302 – personal injury accident, Haggerty/Ecorse
1551 – follow up by officer, Vista Dr.
1715 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1742 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sheldon Rd.
1835 – unattended death, Sondra Dr.
1900 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Archwood
2000 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
2006 – fraud, W. Huron River Dr.
2116 – domestic, Outer Dr.

Saturday, Jan. 5:
0032 – domestic, Oak Blvd.
0657 – domestic, Birch Dr.
0750 – animal complaint, Savage Rd.
0814 – domestic, Bak Rd.
0847 – animal complaint, Savage
0946 – road hazard, Belleville Rd.
1040 – ordinance violation, Haggerty Rd.
1048 – suspicious person/vehicle, Peninsular Dr.
1326 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1419 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1450 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lohr Rd.
1625 – disorderly, Bak Rd.
2016 – property damage accident, bypass / Michigan
Also on this week’s log are 134 traffic stops, 24 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 30:
0159 – intrusion alarm, S. Edgemont Ave.
0223 – suspicious person/vehicle, Free Will Baptist
1232 – civil matter, Carmell St.
2224 – parking complaint, Carmell St.
Monday, Dec. 31:
0240 – neighbor trouble, N. Liberty St.
1353 – welfare check, Breakwater Ct.
2106 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
2137 – traffic offense, Sumpter Rd.
2323 – domestic, N. Liberty St.
2358 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Tuesday, Jan. 1:
0146 – traffic offense, W. Huron River Dr. / Harbour Pointe
0405 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
0453 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Edgemont
1321 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
1352 – harassment call, E. Huron River Dr.
1841 – assist fire dept., Second St.
2303 – miscellaneous complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
2355 – miscellaneous complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.
Wednesday, Jan. 2:
1548 – assist fire dept., Wabash Ave.
1941 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.
1956 – harassment call, Loza Ln.
2158 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.

Thursday, Jan. 3:
1346 – miscellaneous complaint, Main St.
1515 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Liberty St.
1853 – suspicious person/vehicle, Fifth/Liberty
1933 – miscellaneous complaint, Estrada Dr.
1946 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.

Friday, Jan. 4:
0518 – vehicle lock out, N. Liberty St./First St.

1851 – assist other dept., Savage Rd.
1929 – property damage accident, Denton/Main
1936 – trespassing, N. Liberty St.
Saturday, Jan. 5:
0008 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
0229 – domestic, N. Biggs Ave.
0717 – assist fire dept., Henry St.
0913 – follow up by officer, Loza Ln.
0947 – traffic offense, E. Huron River Dr./Biggs
1000 – assist fire dept., Robbe St.
1033 – welfare check, Bedell St.
1121 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1340 – assist fire dept., Harbour Pointe Dr.
1501 – family trouble, Carmell St.
2039 – domestic, Loza Ln.

Also on this week’s log are 33 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Dec. 30:
0050 – assist other agency, out of township
0304 – civil dispute, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0429 – suspicious incident, Carriage Ln.
1006 – animal complaint, Willis/Sherwood
1306 – civil dispute, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1324 – well-being check, Carriage Ln.
1402 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Judd Rd.
1904 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1950 – reckless driver, 8200 bl. Oakville Waltz
2035 – fireworks complaint, 20000 bl. Crandell Ct.
2157 – suspicious incident, 22000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Monday, Dec. 31:
0000 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0737 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.
1017 – juvenile complaint, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
1031 – down wires, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1032 – alarm, 46000 bl. Kozma Rd.
1757 – recovered missing person, 48000 bl. Wear
1918 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster

Tuesday, Jan. 1:
0217 – fight, Judd/Sumpter
0249 – suspicious person, 17000 bl. Sully Dr.
0251 – suspicious vehicle, 21000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0445 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Dunn
0950 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1415 – shots fired, Karr/Judd
1420 – property damage accident, 23000 bl. Clark
1547 – alarm, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1837 – mental health commitment, 22000 bl. Bohn
2022 – suspicious vehicle, 25000 bl. Martinsville

Wednesday, Jan. 2:
0452 – fire dept. assist, 28000 bl. Karr Rd.
1010 – alarm, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1013 – larceny, 45000 bl. Paris Dr.
1243 – fire dept. assist, Knollwood
1401 – civil dispute, Rustic Ln.
1414 – larceny, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1503 – well-being check, Timberlane Dr.
2142 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.

Thursday, Jan. 3:
1020 – disorderly person, 21000 bl. Clark Rd.
1040 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1355 – well-being check, 44000 bl. Willis Rd.
1423 – alarm, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1523 – malicious destruction of property, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.

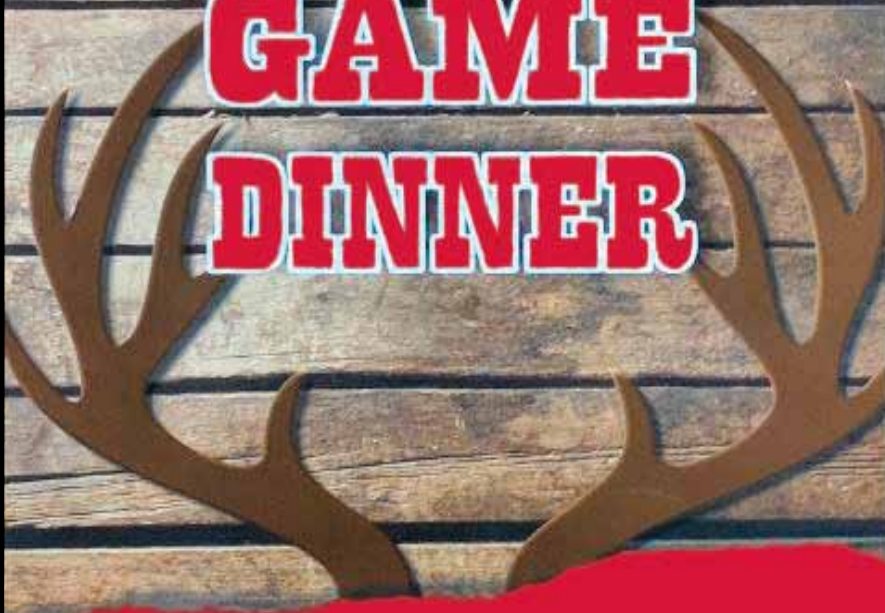
1830 – warrant arrest pick up, 22000 bl. Fenster
1915 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Bohn Rd.
2312 – warrant arrest pick up, Virginia

Friday, Jan. 4:
1017 – citizen assist, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1021 – animal complaint, 27000 bl. Martinsville
1245 – animal complaint, 27000 bl. Martinsville
1301 – suspicious vehicle, 46000 bl. Willow Rd.
1330 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.
1622 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
2141 – well-being check, Edgewood Dr.
2212 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
2228 – ORV complaint, Arkona/Martinsville

Saturday, Jan. 5:
0022 – citizen assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
0825 – alarm, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0827 – citizen assist, Wayside Dr.
0905 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1228 – animal complaint, 27000 bl. Martinsville
1633 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1727 – subpoena service, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1931 – subpoena service, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week’s log are six follow-up investigations, 35 miscellaneous details, 89 patrol checks, and 26 traffic stops.

WILD GAME DINNER



SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2019

WAYNE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS DINING HALL

\$35 per person

Doors open at 6:00 pm | Appetizers at 6:30 pm

Dinner at 7:00 pm

10871 Quirk Road, Belleville (734) 697-7002

Belleville High School Presents

Do it For Daniel

A Suicide Awareness Conversation



Watch a preview of the film:
<http://www.doitfordaniel.com/documentary/>

Questions? Please contact
Kim Bargar
kbargar@yanburenschools.net
(734) 697-9133

Daniel Olson, an all-state athlete from Michigan, ended his life after a lengthy battle with depression. Outside of his family, few people knew of Daniel's struggles. *Do It For Daniel* is a film that documents Daniel's story and the impact of depression on young people and their families. Daniel's dad, Jeff, will be presenting the film and opening dialogue about mental health and teens in hopes of preventing this tragedy from happening to other families.

Meet & Greet for VBPS staff and key community stakeholders

Thursday, January 10, 4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
BHS Media Center

Parent & community events to follow:

Community Organizations & Resources
5:30 - 6:00 p.m., BHS Auditorium lobby

Film viewing & Conversation
6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. ,

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